

PART 215—WITHHOLDING OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA, STATE, CITY AND COUNTY INCOME OR EMPLOYMENT TAXES BY FEDERAL AGENCIES

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 5516, 5517, and 5520 and section 4 of Executive Order 11997, June 22, 1977 (42 FR 31759).

SOURCE: 42 FR 33731, July 1, 1977, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—General Information

§ 215.1 Scope of part.

This part relates to agreements between the Secretary of the Treasury and States (including the District of Columbia), cities or counties for withholding of State, city or county income or employment taxes from the compensation of civilian Federal employees, and for the withholding of State income taxes from the compensation of members of the Armed Forces. Subpart A contains general information and definitions. Subpart B prescribes the procedures to be followed in entering into an agreement for the withholding of State, city or county income or employment taxes. Subpart C is the Standard Agreement which the Secretary will enter into with any State, city or county which qualifies to have tax withheld. Requests for deviations

from this Standard Agreement will be agreed to by the Secretary only if the State, city or county's unique circumstances require it.

§ 215.2 Definitions.

As used in this part:

(a) *Agency* means each of the executive agencies and military departments (as defined in 5 U.S.C. 105 and 102, respectively) and the United States Postal Service; and in addition, for city or county withholding purposes only, all elements of the judicial branch.

(b) *City* means any unit of general local government.

(1) Which:

(A) Is classified as a municipality by the United States Bureau of the Census, or

(B) Is a town or township which, in the determination of the Secretary of the Treasury,

(i) Possesses powers and performs functions comparable to those associated with municipalities,

(ii) Is closely settled, and

(iii) Contains within its boundaries no incorporated places as defined by the United States Bureau of the Census; and

(2) Within the political boundaries of which five hundred or more persons are regularly employed by all agencies of the Federal Government.

(c) *City income or employment taxes* means any form of tax for which, under a city ordinance:

(1) Collection is provided by imposing on employers generally the duty of withholding sums from the pay of employees and making returns of the sums to a designated city officer, department, or instrumentality; and

(2) The duty to withhold generally is imposed on the payment of compensation earned within the jurisdiction of the city in the case of employees whose regular place of employment is within such jurisdiction. Whether the tax is described as an income, wage, payroll, earnings, occupational license, or otherwise, is immaterial.

(d) *Compensation* as applied to employees of an agency and members of the Armed Forces means *wages* as defined in 26 U.S.C. 3401(a) and regulations issued thereunder.

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(e) *County* means any unit of local general Government which is classified as a county by the Bureau of the Census and within the political boundaries of which 500 or more persons are regularly employed by all agencies of the Federal Government.

(f) *County income or employment taxes* means any form of tax for which, under a county ordinance:

(1) Collection is provided by imposing on employers generally the duty of withholding sums from the pay of employees and making returns of the sums to a designated county officer, department, or instrumentality; and

(2) The duty to withhold generally is imposed on the payment of compensation earned within the jurisdiction of the country in the case of employees whose regular place of employment is within such jurisdiction. Whether the tax is described as an income, wage, payroll, earnings, occupational license, or otherwise, is immaterial.

(g) *District of Columbia income tax* means the income tax imposed under 47 District of Columbia Code, chapter 15, subchapter II.

(h)(1) *Employees* for the purpose of State income tax withholding, means all employees of an agency, other than members of the armed forces. For city and county income or employment tax withholding, it means:

(i) Employees of an agency;

(ii) Members of the National Guard, participating in exercises or performing duty under 32 U.S.C. 502; or

(iii) Members of the Ready Reserve, participating in scheduled drills or training periods, or serving on active duty for training under 10 U.S.C. 270(a).

The term does not include retired personnel, pensioners, annuitants, or similar beneficiaries of the Federal Government, who are not performing active civilian service or persons receiving remuneration for services on a contract-fee basis.

(2) *Employees* for purposes of District of Columbia income tax withholding, means employees as defined in 47 District of Columbia Code 1551c(z).

(i) *Members of the Armed Forces* means all individuals in active duty status (as defined in 10 U.S.C. 101(22)) in regular and reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and

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Coast Guard, including members of the National Guard while participating in exercises or performing duty under 32 U.S.C. 502, and members of the Ready Reserve while participating in scheduled drills or training periods or serving on active duty for training under 10 U.S.C. 270(a).

(j) *Ordinance* means an ordinance, order, resolution, or similar instrument which is duly adopted and approved by a city or county in accordance with the constitution and statutes of the state in which it is located and which has the force of law within such city or county.

(k) *Regular place of Federal employment* means the official duty station, or other place, where an employee actually and normally (i.e., other than in a travel or temporary duty status) performs services, irrespective of residence.

(l) *Secretary* means Secretary of the Treasury and Fiscal Assistant Secretary or his designee.

(m) *State* means a State of the United States or the District of Columbia, unless otherwise specified.

(n) *State income tax* means any form of tax for which, under a State status:

(1) Collection is provided, either by imposing on employers generally the duty of withholding sums from the compensation of employees and making returns of such sums to the State or by granting to employers generally the authority to withhold sums from the compensation of employees, if any employee voluntarily elects to have such sums withheld; and

(2) The duty to withhold generally is imposed, or the authority to withhold generally is granted, with respect to the compensation of employees who are residents of such State.

[42 FR 33731, July 1, 1977, as amended at 55 FR 3590, Feb. 2, 1990; 55 FR 7494, Mar. 2, 1990]

Subpart B—Procedures

§215.3 Relationship of Standard Agreement to existing agreements.

(a) Subpart C of this part is the Standard Agreement which the Secretary will enter into with a State, city or county. This Standard Agreement replaces all prior agreements between the Secretary and the State or